

## Message Text

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51 46

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 AGR-20 TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03

NSC-10 IGA-02 INR-10 CIAE-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 /130 W

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P R 200920 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3437

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y MRN 11035 VICE 1035

JOINT EMBASSY/ USAID MESSAGE

E. O. 11652 N/ A DECLASS 12/31/73

TAGS: EAGR, VS

SUBJECT: PL-480 TITLE I RICE DIVERSION

REF: A. STATE 114025 B. STATE 116326 C. STATE 117799

D. SEOUL 3844 E. SAIGON 104 91

1. OUR CURRENT ASSESSMENT OF IN- COUNTRY STOCKS FOR EXPECTED SHORTAGES IN OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER IS THAT WE WILL NEED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OF THE 51,000 MT YOU ARE WORKING TO DIVERT FROM KOREA TO INDOCHINA, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE DECEMBER 1 ESTIMATED EARLIEST ARRIVAL DATE OF RICE FROM NEW US CROP AS STATED IN REF A. WE HAD BEEN PLANNING FOR RESUMPTION OF IMPORTS BY NOVEMBER 1 AT THE LATEST AND ON DELIVERIES OF NOT LESS THAN 110,000 MT DURING NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER. TO THE EXTENT THAT TARGET CANNOT BE MET AND/ OR GVN WILL BE ASKED TO DIVERT RICE TO CAMBODIA, ACQUISITION OF ALL THE 51,000 MT BECOMES INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT.

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2. MISSION APPRECIATES COMPLEXITY AND DIFFICULTY INVOLVED IN DIVERSION OF RICE AT THIS TIME AND AID/ W' S EFFORTS OUTLINED IN REF B, C, AND D TO OBTAIN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED IN REF E. WE AND GVN WISH TO COOPERATE IN OUR OWN BEST INTERESTS AND IN REGIONAL COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO RESOLVE RICE SUPPLY PROBLEM. ANSWERS TO SEVERAL OTHER QUESTIONS WOULD BE MOST USEFUL FOR US TO ADEQUATELY ADVISE GVN ON COURSE OF ACTION IT SHOULD FOLLOW IN ACCOMPLISHING DIVERSION OF RICE OR GOING TO KOREA TO NEGOTIATE. PERHAPS USAID/ KOREA COULD HELP AID/ W AND US OBTAIN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS AS FOLLOWS:

1. WHAT TYPE IS THE 24,000 MT RICE AID/ W IS ALSO TRYING TO DIVERT?
  2. DOES THE 41.22/ MT COST OF SHIPMENT US TO KOREA REFLECT US WEST COAST TO KOREA OR EAST COAST OR GULF PORT?
  3. CAN GVN TENDER FREIGHT FOR ITSELF FOR KOREA TO VIETNAM SHIPMENTS AND FOR SHIPMENT OF 6,000 MT RICE STILL REMAINING IN US?
  4. WHAT WILL BE THE MONTHLY INTEREST CHARGE ON KOREAN CLCC LOAN?
  5. WHAT WILL THE TOTAL COST OF DIVERSIONS OF ALL TYPES, INCLUDING COST OF RICE, TO THE GVN BE AND HOW DOES IT BREAK DOWN?
  6. WHAT TIME FRAME OF SHIPPING AND ARRIVAL CAN WE EXPECT TO ACHIEVE AFTER REASHING AGREEMENT?
- ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS WOULD GIVE US AND GVN A MORE WORKABLE INFORMATION BASE TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS AND PERMIT EASIER EXPLANATION TO GKR IN EVENT OF SUBSEQUENT DIVERSION VIETNAM TO CAMBODIA.

3. MINECON PHAM KIM NGOC AND ASST. DIR OF COMMERCIAL AID VU TOAN WILL BE IN WASHINGTON THURSDAY, JUNE 21. AID/ W MAY WISH TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS RICE DIVERSION WITH THEM AND THE LIKLIHOOD OF DIVERSION OF RICE TO CAMBODIA PLUS THE POSSIBILITY OF DIRECT DIVERSION OF SOME RICE FROM KOREA TO CAMBODIA WITH CONSEQUENT SAVINGS IN COSTS.

WHITEHOUSE

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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**Subject:** PL-480 TITLE I RICE DIVERSION  
**TAGS:** EAGR, VS  
**To:** AID  
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BANGKOK  
MULTIPLE  
PHNOM PENH  
TOKYO  
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